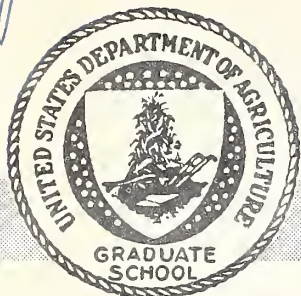


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# Newsletter

GRADUATE SCHOOL ★ USDA

August 8, 1952

To the Faculty, Committee Members and  
others associated with the Graduate School:

## WHAT CAN GS DO

to provide in-service training, especially graduate instruction, for Federal employees already on the job in field assignments? Thousands of men and women who work for the Federal government are outside the Washington area. For example, nearly 85 percent of USDA's employees are in other parts of the United States. Other Federal departments have a similar ratio of jobs outside of Washington.

I hold that GS can make a notable contribution to the continuing education of these field employees through appropriate cooperation with established and available institutions. In USDA we have a long history of cooperation with the Land-Grant colleges. At present this is most effective in the fields of research and extension. In my opinion there is a third great function -- instruction -- especially graduate instruction for Federal employees already on the job.

We have already begun to explore methods of cooperation between GS and certain institutions. Boston University is displaying a constructive interest toward approximately 50,000 Federal employees in its area of influence. Denver University has shown a similar interest. We have had a preliminary conference with officials of the University of Delaware. We are in touch with the University of Florida on another type of problem. There are other possibilities of which I, as a former field employee, am keenly aware.

I am anxious to have the Land-Grant institutions sense the potential of cooperation in this field. I am equally anxious to have the GS faculty see the possibilities of this broader service. I will appreciate your comments and suggestions.

## THE GENERAL ADMINISTRATION BOARD,

meeting July 21, approved the GS budget for the coming year, approved a cooperative project with the Southern Regional Education Board, and authorized me to continue work on a policy that will enable GS to accept funds from foundations and other sources. The Secretary has filled the vacancies on the Board caused by the retirement of Lyle Watts, Hugh Bennett and myself by appointing to it Byron T. Shaw, administrator of ARA; Robert M. Salter, chief of SCS; and Richard E. McArdle, chief of FS.

## **A SIGNAL DEVELOPMENT**

in GS cooperation with State educational institutions has come in an opportunity to work with the Southern Regional Education Board and directors of the agricultural experiment stations of 14 States. The objective is to explore possibilities -- through inter-university and inter-agency cooperation -- for strengthening graduate instruction and research in basic and applied agricultural sciences in Southern colleges and universities. This forward-looking approach has already been used effectively by the SREB in planning improvements in medicine, dentistry, veterinary science, and forestry.

I have been invited by the SREB and the Directors of Southern Experiment Stations and have been granted permission by the General Administration Board of GS, to serve as a consultant on the project. George F. Gant, associate director of SREB, and I mapped out preliminary plans for my work in a conference at Atlanta, Georgia, July 23-24. The plans will be given further consideration early in August at a meeting of the committee on agricultural research. The committee is made up of 3 agricultural experiment station directors -- C. C. Murray of Georgia, chairman, R. W. Cummings, North Carolina, and R. D. Lewis, Texas.

According to the preliminary plans I will devote 60 to 75 days between now and next June to visiting Southern educational and agricultural research institutions, considering potentialities for enhancing graduate work and research in the agricultural sciences, and developing information and ideas to be considered in a work conference of college officials in the region next spring. The assignment offers a tremendous opportunity to broaden the service of GS to Southern institutions, and this should be of importance, also, to Federal employees in that region.

## **THE WITHDRAWAL POLICY,**

revised last year to provide refunds on a gradually diminishing basis during the first 6 weeks of the term (the first 3 weeks of the summer term), appears to be working out well, according to Registrar Louise Sullivan. The new policy is of special benefit to students who must drop school work because of transfers, heavier assignments on the job, and similar circumstances. In the first year this plan was used, the record shows that 3 percent of the enrollment in the fall, 2 percent in the spring, and 4 percent in the summer withdrew from GS during the first 2 weeks; 6 percent in the fall, 4 percent, in the spring, and 6 percent in the summer, withdrew during the second 2 weeks; and 8 percent of the cumulative enrollment in the fall; 6 percent in the spring, and 7 percent in the summer withdrew during the third 2 weeks. No refunds are made at the end of 6 weeks.

## **HAVE YOU CHECKED**

the 1952-53 catalog to see if there are any classes in which you wish to enroll this year? GS faculty and committee members may take GS courses at the cost only of registration fee (\$5.00 per course). You also have the privilege of buying books through the GS bookstore at the publishers' discount.

#### **"WHEN FRIENDLY INDIANS**

taught the early settlers of America that corn would increase its tempo of growth if 3 moribund alewives were placed in each corn hill, farm demonstration made its initial bow," C. W. Warburton, director of the Extension Service, observed in 1939 on the 25th anniversary of the Smith-Lever Act establishing the Service.

"I believe the methods of carrying on agricultural extension work can be greatly improved," said Dean Isaac P. Roberts of Cornell in 1900. "I base this opinion on 3 years' experience of sending out to work with farmers, mature trained men who have shown by results that they can come near to following their own teachings. These field agents travel largely on bicycles, eat at the farmer's table, and then go to the field ... explaining the methods to be pursued and the object of the investigations ... being carried on by the farmer under the direction of the college."

"The American people always find the right man to meet an emergency," Secretary of Agriculture Wilson said in 1901. "We want a man now to organize the education for half the people under our flag, the people who till the soil ... The American farmer is waiting and watching for the coming of this man."

"In the past the Land-Grant colleges have come to the assistance of farmers," J. M. Hamilton of the Office of Experiment Stations pointed out in 1905, "by fitting their sons for teaching ... by equipping them as scientists ... The 'open door' today looks out upon a much wider field. It extends this obligation to giving aid to the farmer himself."

The above quotations come from the latest volume to bear the GS imprint - THE SPIRIT AND PHILOSOPHY OF EXTENSION WORK, published in cooperation with Epsilon Sigma Phi, National Honorary Extension Fraternity, Inc.

The volume is composed of significant papers on Extension. These were compiled and edited by R. J. Bliss, director emeritus of the Iowa Extension Service under the direction of the fraternity's publications policy committee composed of T. B. Symons, Maryland, chairman, and M. L. Wilson, Gladys Gallup, Madge J. Reece, and Luke Schruben of the Federal Extension Service. William H. Cheeseman, former technical editor of the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering, did the final editing and indexing.

Of the 1,360 copies sold to date, 20 have gone to the Mutual Security Agency for agricultural workers on foreign assignments.

I heartily recommend this new book to each of you who is interested in agriculture, in education, and in building a better society in agricultural areas throughout the world. Price is \$4.50. Copies can be obtained from Vera Jensen, GS bookstore.



### RECOMMENDED READING

EXECUTIVES FOR THE FEDERAL SERVICE by John J. Corson. Columbia University Press. \$1.50. Dr. Corson, who teaches "Administrative Leadership" in the GS Department of Public Administration, knows from executive experience in several Government agencies, how difficult it is to get able individuals to fill big jobs. In his new book he outlines a thorough program for immediate action and for long-term improvement. He favors creating a pool of career administrators and a complementary public service research to provide a mobile and expansive supply of qualified executive talent.

SCIENCE IN ALASKA, published by the Arctic Institute of North America, represents the selected papers of the First Alaskan Science Conference. It was edited by Henry B. Collins.

### THE ANNUAL GS DINNER

this year, will be a family affair to which the wives and husbands of GS faculty and committee members will be invited. It will be held shortly before the opening of school -- probably during the week of September 18 -- at the University of Maryland.

The committee -- Harry C. Trelogan, chairman, B. J. Tepping, Ten M. F. Allsman, E. C. Johnson, E. L. LeClerg, W. D. Rasmussen, J. H. Starkey, and Henry Stevens -- promises an outstanding speaker. We will have more details in the next issue of the NEWSLETTER.

### NAMES IN THE NEWS

New vice-president of the Society of Personnel Administration is Edwin R. Draheim, who teaches, "Administration of Training".

Warner H. Hord has taken a 6-months assignment as advisor to the government of India on air transportation problems. The work is being done under the auspices of the International Civil Aeronautics Organization in Montreal. During his absence the course in "Intermediate Accounting" will be taught by Bernard T. Dodder, president of the Dodder Mutual Insurance Agency. Mr. Dodder holds a BS from Oklahoma A&M, and MS from Iowa State College. He is a CPA in the State of Maryland and was formerly head of the Department of Accounting at the University of Maryland.

Sincerely,



Director

